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For Immediate Release

Kenton County Office of Circuit Court Clerk now accepting credit cards — Court system offers new way to pay for court costs and fines —

FRANKFORT, Ky., Dec. 16, 2005 — For the first time in Kenton County, court costs and fines can be paid by credit card, announced Kenton County Circuit Court Clerk Karen Linn. The change was effective Oct. 18, 2005.

Linn explained that the Kenton County Office of Circuit Court Clerk has traditionally accepted cash, checks or money orders as payment, but payments by Visa and MasterCard are now accepted at the counter. "Offering the option of paying by credit card enhances our customer service," said Linn. She added that, "The Kenton County Circuit Court Clerk's office is also a pilot site and the first in the state with the capability to accept payments by phone using Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover." The Office of Circuit Court Clerk is located in the Kenton County Justice Center, 230 Madison Ave., Covington.

Kenton is one of 15 Kentucky counties that allow citizens to pay court costs and fines by credit card, according to Scott Brown, general manager for the Department of Auditing Services of the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), which provides operational support to circuit court clerks statewide. The AOC will evaluate the success of this pilot program before deciding how quickly to implement it in other counties.

Circuit court clerks have offices in all 120 Kentucky counties and are responsible for managing the records of circuit and district courts. The Administrative Office of the Courts supports the activities of more than 3,400 Kentucky Court of Justice employees, including the elected offices of justices, judges and circuit court clerks.

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